

2. The Examiner is requested to amend the specification in the Brief Description of the Drawings on page 7 of the specification as follows: "Illustrates a pairwise sequence alignment with gaps in the sequences, where the bases of $Q_{i\text{left}}$ and $Q_{i\text{right}}$ from the Query/Hit pairwise alignment fragment, Sequence ID No. 1".

Amendment of Claims

Please cancel claims 10-15 and 17. Please amend the following claims:

5. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said query sequence is a deoxyribonucleotide sequence.
6. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said query sequence is a ribonucleotide sequence.
7. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said query sequences are derived from animal DNA or RNA.
10. (Cancelled).
11. (Cancelled).
12. (Cancelled).